

"Milton" (Loughborough House)
River Road, 1 mile west of D. C. (In Maryland)
Near Washington, D. C.

SOMERSET

HABS No. 10-1

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Photographs

Reduced Copies of Measured Drawings

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

District No. 10

Historic American Buildings Survey
Major H. Brooks Price, District Officer
1316 New Hampshire Avenue, Washington, D. C.

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MILTON
or
Loughborough House
River Road, One Mile West of
District of Columbia

Owner: Not given.

Date of Erection: 1700 (approximate ?); main part and wing, 1847.

Architect and Builder: No record.

Present Condition: Good.

Materials of Construction: Stone.

Number of Stories: Two (central part); one and a half (wings).

Other Existing Records: See text.

Additional Data: See following pages.

"MILTON"

Loughborough House
River Road, Md.

Nathan Loughborough came to Washington with the Federal Government when it moved here from Philadelphia in 1800. In 1808 he bought a long tract of land about a mile outside of the District line on the River Road, including the old stone house "Milton" then on it. For some years he quartered his overseer at "Milton" while he lived on the adjoining property "Graesland".

The original portion of the old stone house was built as a trading post in 1700; even to this day it has the iron-lined fireplaces peculiar to the Dutch type of architecture in this country. Here the Indians stopped on their trek to the tribal burying grounds in Albemarle County in Virginia. Here also the Indians traded with the Dutch and made arrowheads from the flint in the quarry on this land.

In 1847, at the time of his second marriage, Nathan Loughborough enlarged the old house by adding the central portion and the left wing and moved his residence from "Graesland" to "Milton". The early records speak of this second wife, Margaret Loughborough, as being a constant hostess, always having a crowd of friends around her at "Milton" and continually giving large parties and entertainments.

In November, 1930, the original portion of "Milton" built in 1700 was damaged by fire. The old house is again in the hands of temporary tenants and in a state of great disrepair.

Reference: Article in Washington Post, December 4, 1932

Author: Major H. Brooke Price, District Officer

By: *Am. M. Rittenhouse*

Reviewed 1936 by H.C.F.